

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

FY 2003 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Since 1992, The Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) has reaffirmed its commitment to address environmental justice by integrating it into our activities and decision-making processes. Our overall goal is to achieve environmental justice by decreasing the burden of environmental risks to all communities as a result of improved air quality. Consistently, as staff within each of OAR's offices make decisions about the design of new programs or the implementation of existing programs, they are encouraged to integrate environmental justice principles into the process. Each OAR office is expected to identify areas where minority and low-income population are being disproportionately exposed to environmental hazards or where there are potential benefits to minority and low income communities (i.e., through transportation and air quality improvements, mass transit policies, and voluntary programs).

In 2002, OAR developed an Action Plan with the goal of supporting efforts to develop and implement strategies and activities to integrate environmental justice into existing programs. This action plan underscored the valuable work that we continue to do in the area of environmental justice and represented a coordinated implementation strategy.

OAR has realized significant success in meeting the commitments reflected in the FY02 Plan. With few exceptions, we are on target with the timelines and goals established for the FY02 initiatives and our ongoing projects are continuing on schedule.

A number of initiatives reflected in the FY02 plan have been major success stories, (e.g., the Office of Radiation and Indoor Air's "Clean Air Century Campaign" and the Office of Transportation and Air Quality's "Clean School Bus USA" program). More recently after years of hard work and dedication by the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Standards were officially issued. These standards were required by the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments. These rules will prevent more than 1.7 million tons of air pollution (from 1990 baseline levels) from dirtying our skies, poisoning our waters and threatening public health by reducing toxics such as benzene, toluene and mercury in the 174 Clean Air Source Category. We also are continuing our work with the NEJAC Air and Water Subcommittee, particularly in its effort to develop a "Recommended Practices Guide for Permitting".

The following sections of the Progress Report contain narrative discussions of initiatives listed in the FY02 OAR Environmental Justice Action Plan. Matrices from each OAR office reflecting the status of activities listed in the Plan are contained in the appendix section of this report.

OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY (OTAQ)

During FY 2003, The Office of Transportation & Air Quality continued to make progress toward meeting its environmental justice commitments listed in Section 4: Program Support and Appendix A: EJ Strategies and Activities Matrix of the 2002 OAR EJ Action Plan. OTAQ's programs and activities listed in the 2002 Action Plan met or exceeded their objectives and goals. Congress provided EPA with \$5 million to support a new program to reduce pollution from school buses, "Clean School Bus USA," which grew out of OTAQ's Diesel Retrofit Program (page 17 of the 2002 Action Plan). Of the three OTAQ EJ strategies listed in the Matrix of the 2002 Action Plan, only one was not under taken in FY03 due to the inability of the applicant to meet a project cost share requirement.

Below, please find a list of OTAQ's EJ commitments from the 2002 Action Plan followed by a brief synopsis of FY 2003 accomplishments:

OTAQ EJ COMMITMENTS

(As Described in Section 4 of the 2002 OAR EJ Action Plan)

Section 4: Program Support (Page 16)

Baltimore Region Environmental Justice and Transportation Project. EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ), the Baltimore Urban League, Baltimore Metropolitan Council, and the National Transportation Center at Morgan State University propose to identify and develop practices and tools to undertake a comprehensive analysis of environmental justice and transportation-related issues in the Baltimore region. The goal of this project is to integrate environmental justice into transportation planning as an on-going and daily activity with meaningful community involvement throughout the process.

Accomplishments in FY03:

OTAQ and OAR fully funded Phase I of the of the Baltimore Region EJ and Transportation Project. Phase I consists of a series of community listening sessions to identify regional EJ issues related to transportation. Depending upon the findings of Phase I listening sessions (as well as research during Phase I to look for other model efforts to address EJ and transportation planning issues) and the availability of future resources, Phase II of the project is anticipated to develop new or refine existing analytic tools to be used in the regional transportation planning process to address the EJ issues identified in Phase I of the project.

Section 4: Program Support (Page 16)

Hotspot Exposure Assessment Program. OAR's Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Air Toxics Center, is assisting regulatory agencies in the development of models to accurately identify and assess personal exposures to air toxics in microenvironments.

The major purpose of this work is to quantify impacts from mobile source generated toxics. OTAQ plans to participate in a number of studies to specifically investigate impacts from mobile sources in select microenvironments, which will include environmental justice communities. Three projects have been planned to date: (1) Fresno Asthmatic Children's Environment Study, (2) Baltimore Traffic Study, and (3) Los Angeles School Bus Exposure Assessment.

Accomplishments in FY03:

The Hotspot Exposure Assessment Program continues to consist of three projects: (1) the Fresno Asthmatic Children's Study, (2) Baltimore Traffic Study, and (3) the Los Angeles School Bus Exposure Assessment. OTAQ has fully funded its contribution to the first two projects, and both are in the data analysis phase. OTAQ expects final reports this year. The Los Angeles School Bus Exposure Assessment was released by the California Air Resources Board in October 2003 and may be found on ARB's website at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/schoolbus/schoolbus.htm>).

Section 4: Program Support (Page 16)

Local Air Toxics Assessments. OAQPS is continuing to assist Regions with the implementation of community-based air toxics programs. The goal is to work with the community, and our state and local partner agencies, and other stakeholders to identify solutions to toxic hotspot issues. For example, the **Cleveland Air Toxics Pilot Project** will seek to demonstrate an approach in which local stakeholders, with advice and support from OAR, can work collaboratively to achieve reductions in air toxics from indoor, outdoor, and mobile sources of these contaminants. A key component of the pilot project is the stakeholder Working Group who guides and undertakes the activities of the pilot program. Members of this stakeholder group include residents, representatives from neighborhood organizations and businesses, local government officials, individuals from area colleges and universities, industry representatives, and environmental advocates and other non-profit organizations. An independent consulting firm will assist in forming the stakeholder group and facilitating meetings. It is important to note that while some aspects of this project benefit Cleveland as a whole, OAR is focusing particular attention to the St. Clair/Superior-Goodrich Kirtland and Slavic Village neighborhoods, which were selected, among other reasons, because they included low-income and minority populations.

Accomplishments in FY03:

OTAQ (along with ORIA and OAQPS) continues to assist EPA Regions in community-based air toxics programs. In FY2003, OTAQ lent significant technical assistance to local air toxics assessments in Portland, OR and Philadelphia, PA and is continuing this assistance in FY04.

Section 4: Program Support (Page 17)

Diesel Retrofit Program. OAR will continue to support additional diesel retrofit programs. This Program is a non-regulatory, incentive based, voluntary program designed to pursue reductions in hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter from existing diesel vehicles and equipment by the installation of pollution-reducing technology.

As part of this program OAR and Region 5 have established a school bus retrofit project in Northwest Indiana. Here, advanced emission control equipment will be employed to reduce the pollution from this existing fleet. In addition OAR has recently established a retrofit project, with a second project to be announced in the very near future, within our nation's tribal community. The school bus fleet of the Puyallup tribe in the state of Washington will be retrofit with pollution-reducing technology and cleaner diesel fuel.

EPA's **Urban Bus Retrofit/Rebuild Program** is a regulatory-based program with the objective of reducing pollution from the existing urban bus fleet. This mandatory program is designed to ensure particulate matter emissions are reduced for 1993 and earlier model year urban buses at the time of engine rebuild or replacement. The regulations apply to metropolitan areas with 1980 populations of 750,000 or more. Forty-nine urban areas across the U.S. have been identified which are covered by this regulation.

OAR is also working directly with tribes to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust from their commute to school on the school bus. OAR issued a grant to the Puyallup tribe in the state of Washington to establish a diesel retrofit project. This project will entail installing advanced emission control technologies on their school bus fleet that will reduce particulate levels of the bus's exhaust by over 90 percent. An objective of this project is to address the disproportionate exposure risk for minority children that live in this tribal community.

Accomplishments in FY03:

OAR continued to support additional diesel retrofit programs and the program continues to be a non-regulatory, incentive based, voluntary program designed to pursue reductions in hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter from existing diesel vehicles and equipment by the installation of pollution-reducing technology.

In April 2003, EPA launched “**Clean School Bus USA**”, a new children's health initiative aimed at reducing air pollution from school buses. The program is an outgrowth of EPA's Voluntary Diesel Retrofit Program.

Across the country, 24 million children ride a bus to and from school everyday and spend between 20 minutes and several hours per day on these buses. Unfortunately,

older school buses can pollute up to six times more than buses that use clean technology. Children are especially vulnerable to the effects of diesel emissions which can cause respiratory disease and exacerbate long term conditions such as asthma. Reducing pollution from school buses will help improve local air quality and reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust. To the extent that children in Environmental Justice areas suffer from asthma, reducing pollution from school buses will help remove one more asthma trigger.

Clean School Bus USA has three primary goals:

- (1) Reduce unnecessary school bus idling 100% by 2010,
- (2) Retrofit and upgrade 100% of existing 1990-2003 diesel school buses by 2010,
- (3) Replace 100% of pre-1990 school buses with new clean buses.

To financially support this effort, Congress included \$5 million in EPA's FY03 budget for a cost-shared grant program designed to assist school districts in upgrading their bus fleets. This grant competition opened on June 13, 2003 and closed on August 1, 2003. We received over 120 applications from 36 states and Puerto Rico. In the solicitation, Environmental Justice was listed as one of the factors EPA would consider. We indicated that one of our goals was to improve the health of communities that are considered low-income, minority, have high asthma rates, or receive a disproportionate amount of pollution from diesel vehicles. OAR awarded 17 demonstration grants across the country in October, 2003. Congress has allocated another \$5 million to school bus demonstration grants for FY04.

In these two programs, advanced emission control equipment will be employed to reduce the pollution from this existing fleet. In addition OAR has recently established a second project to be announced in the very near future, within our nation's tribal community. A fleet of diesel vehicles of the Winnebago Tribe in Nebraska will be retrofitted with pollution-reducing technology. An objective of this project is to address the disproportionate exposure risk for minority children that live in this tribal community. Finally, the **National Transportation Idle Free Corridors Project** focuses on reducing emissions from long duration truck and locomotive engine idling which occur at locations within urban areas (locomotive switch yards) and along major interstates (truck stops).

OAR also awarded additional retrofit funding cooperative agreements with organizations using a competitive process. The projects included an additional school district and transit agencies serving EJ areas. The proposals were required to address EJ and the areas to be served by the projects - 20% of the evaluation was based on EJ. Six projects were awarded with the possibility of using 04/05 funds for additional projects selected under this criteria.

EPA's **Urban Bus Retrofit/Rebuild Program** is a regulatory-based program with the objective of reducing pollution from the existing urban bus fleet. This

mandatory program is designed to ensure particulate matter emissions are reduced for 1993 and earlier model year urban buses at the time of engine rebuild or replacement. The regulations apply to metropolitan areas with 1980 populations of 750,000 or more. Forty-nine urban areas across the U.S. have been identified which are covered by this regulation. This program will continue as long as those vehicles are in service.

Section 4: Program Support (Page 17)

Proposed National Environmental Justice and Transportation Workshop. In cooperation with other stakeholders and interested parties, OTAQ is planning to convene a national workshop made-up of a selected panel of technical experts and community-based advocates to identify and examine the issues and practical and readily applicable tools and procedures to undertake environmental justice analyses of transportation plans and projects. Results could be used by EPA to inform the development of a future environmental justice and transportation pilot for the purpose of further evaluating the most promising state-of-the-art tool(s) or procedure(s) for environmental justice analysis coming out of the workshop as recommended by the panel. OTAQ's current plans are for the workshop to be conducted in the Summer or Fall of 2003.

Accomplishments in FY03:

To take advantage of limited resources the Proposed National EJ and Transportation Workshop was folded into OTAQ's Baltimore Region EJ and Transportation Project and is anticipated to occur as a part of Phase III of the Baltimore project which is designed to include widespread regional and national dissemination of the project's community-based EJ issue findings and the technology implementation activities associated with addressing the EJ findings in the regions transportation planning process.

Section 4: Program Support (Page 18)

Idle Reduction Program. EPA established a program to reduce air pollution and conserve fuel from idling trucks and locomotives. As part of this program, OTAQ is organizing regional coalitions of communities, state and local governments, and trucking and truck stop companies to install idle reduction systems along major interstate corridors, such as I-65 in the Midwest and I-95 in the Northeast. The criteria for identifying locations includes areas with low-income, minority populations with a disproportionate amount of facilities nearby. Two such locations include a large truck stop in Gary, Indiana which received a \$125,000 grant for the installation of truck stop electrification infrastructure, and a locomotive switch yard which received a \$60,000 grant for anti-idling devices.

Accomplishments in FY03:

EPA established this program to reduce air pollution and conserve fuel from idling trucks and locomotives. As part of this program, OTAQ continues to organize regional coalitions of communities, state and local governments, and trucking and truck stop companies to install idle reduction systems along major interstate corridors, such as I-65 in the Midwest and I-95 in the Northeast. The criteria for identifying locations includes areas with low-income, minority populations with a disproportionate amount of facilities nearby. Two such locations include a large truck stop in Gary, Indiana which received a \$125,000 grant for the installation of truck stop electrification infrastructure, and a locomotive switch yard which received a \$60,000 grant for anti-idling devices. To date additional federal transportation funding has been secured and there are plans to build a 50 space Truck Stop Electrification project in Gary and the locomotive switcher project has been completed and a case study is being developed.

OFFICE OF RADIATION AND INDOOR AIR (ORIA)

The Office of Radiation and Indoor Air (ORIA) has funded and supported the implementation of many projects that specifically address environmental justice concerns in environmentally burdened communities of color and low-income populations. ORIA's EJ initiatives are being implemented for a variety of settings with multiple target audiences and different approaches to addressing environmental justice concerns. ORIA's commitments, which are contained in the OAR FY 2002 EJ Action Plan, focus on identifying opportunities and providing tools and resources that community residents can access to protect their health, the health of their families and their community.

ORIA has realized significant success in meeting all of the commitments reflected in the FY02 Plan. The commitments were allocated ample resources, including funding and personnel (FTE), in order to launch and/or sustain them during FY 2003 and beyond. The Office is on target in meeting established milestones for the FY02 initiatives and ongoing projects are moving along as planned.

The following is a summary of ORIA's EJ accomplishments that address specific areas from the OAR 2002 EJ Action Plan.

ORIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FY 03 ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Related to the FY 2002 OAR EJ Action Plan commitments)

I. Background Section: Environmental Justice in the Office of Air and Radiation

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ORIA successfully launched IAQ Tools for Schools' Florida Pilot in low-income communities – seven districts committed to implementing the pilot. ORIA also continued the already successful IAQ Tools for Schools Texas Pilot that has impacted indoor air quality in urban schools.

II. Section 2: Management Support

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The Cleveland workgroup reached consensus on air toxics reduction projects in low-income and minority populations to be implemented. The Mayor of Cleveland launched the next phase of the project called the Clean Air Century Campaign. Several Cleveland organizations and communities, representing the non-profit and private sector, state and local government and neighborhoods, have formed a local workgroup and launched a pilot smoke-free home campaign.

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ORIA's program offices continued to incorporate environmental justice principals into program guidance. The overall focus of ORIA's IAQ program is on environmental justice and disadvantaged communities. For example, for fiscal year 2003 and 2004, the Indoor Environments Division's program and budget guidance stated in clear terms:

- “1. *Incorporate the values of environmental justice in our work; make sure we are addressing the needs of those who bear disproportionate risk from indoor air as a result of their socioeconomic status.*
2. *Strive to make our communications **culturally competent**, so that the audiences who bear a disproportionate share of risk we seek to reduce will truly hear what we have to say.”*

III. **Section 4: Program Support**

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ORIA is working with Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University and the Tribal Air Monitoring Center (TAMS) to develop training in environmental radiation monitoring that will be available to tribes across the country dealing with impacts from radiation activities.

A quarterly outreach newsletter that includes articles on who and what the TAMS Center is, its mission, and current TAMS projects and events. The newsletter is distributed to our partner - ITEP - and they, in turn, distribute the newsletter at all applicable conferences and meetings which they attend. The newsletter is also distributed to the Tribal Air Coordinators.

ORIA, through a cooperative agreement with ITEP Uranium Education and Outreach program (UREO) has worked in several different arenas to bring educational information and materials to tribal representatives.

ORIA provided on-site scanner van services to Region 10's Midnite Mine Site in Spokane, Washington which was the site of a former uranium mine and is within tribal lands. Preliminary data analysis has been forwarded to the Region and will be used to cleanup identified areas of concern discovered during the scan.

In partnership with TAMS Center staff, ORIA staff began discussions with the Navajo Reservation as they seek to address concerns related to legacy uranium mining activities and begin sampling in early FY04 to determine if there is evidence of residual radioactive materials on Tribal lands.

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The second wave of the English and Spanish-language versions of the “Goldfish” campaign to reduce asthma attacks in children was launched. This asthma media campaign yielded \$96 million in donated media time, over 400,000 visitors to the website, and over 11,000 hotline calls as a result of the campaign.

Training activities to address environmental triggers for disproportionately affected children suffering from asthma yielded the following results: over 660 respiratory therapists were trained about environmental triggers of asthma and were awarded 4,013 continuing education credits; over 2,500 childcare providers and over 2,000 school nurses were awarded; over 400 Open Airways classes were held, reaching over 3,000 students.

ORIA sponsored a stakeholder education workshop for Medicaid health plan providers that offer coverage for over 150,000 low-income recipients.

IV. **Section 5: Government Performance and Results Action (GPRA) alignment (link to mission and priorities)**

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An ORIA staff representative has been named as the EPA Co-Chair of the National EPA-Tribal Science Council (TSC) which is a newly created group to work with tribes. The TSC consists of tribal representatives from each Regional Tribal Operations Committee and agency representatives from each Region and Program Office. This provides a forum to discuss science issues of importance to tribes in Indian Country and organize selective activities to address broad concerns such as Tribal Traditional Lifeways and use of Traditional Knowledge in the EPA Risk Assessment process.

ORIA established a new cooperative agreement with the Inter-Tribal Council (ITCA) of Arizona. As a result of this new agreement:

- * An IED-funded "circuit rider" from the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, a consortium of 19 tribes, is now providing on-site training to tribal communities on asthma and secondhand smoke risk reduction, indoor air quality in schools, and mold.
- * Over one hundred Tribal council members, environmental professionals, school nurses, tribal school administrations, local tribal housing authorities and respiratory health therapists servicing Tribal Nations have been trained on IAQ and asthma risk reduction techniques.
- * Over 20 tribes have received the ITCA's new “Tribal Asthma Outreach

Training Module” which provides culturally competent asthma outreach information.

- * The first “ IAQ Tribal Tools for Schools Plan” was completed by ITCA's Tribal Schools Workgroup.

ORIA continued its interagency agreement with the U.S. Indian Health Service. Accomplishments include:

- * Jemez Pueblo Project (New Mexico): conducted IAQ assessments of 40 residences and one school.
- * Ft. Peck Project (Montana): has conducted asthma outreach and education activities in their community.

ORIA established a new project entitled: Indoor Air Pollution from Cooking and Heating Devices in Tribal communities and is conducting a literature search on the issue and setting up a roundtable of experts. This project attempts to promote IAQ risk reduction techniques related to indoor air pollution from cooking or heating devices (such as cookstoves, wood burning, etc.) for Native American Tribes.

The current edition of *Radon: A Part of Nature* was revised in 2003. The publication is written and designed to educate Native Americans about the risks of radon gas and is being widely disseminated to Tribal organizations.

ORIA distributed approximately 1500 radon canisters to environmental justice partners that work with residents from low-income households. The lab analyzed approximately 1300 canisters. There are approximately 40 environmental justice partners located throughout the U.S. that participate in the program.

Tribal Air Monitoring Support Center (TAMS) Technical Courses and Workshops

- * ORIA developed a hands-on Residential Tribal Training Course focusing on how to conduct IAQ assessments in residential buildings and on low cost intervention techniques.
- * ORIA delivered the pilot course, “Tribal Residential Indoor Air Quality” in Green Bay, Wisconsin to 17 participants representing 17 tribal nations.
- * ORIA continued training for tribes measuring particulate matter in tribal lands, including delivery of eleven workshops to approximately 130 tribal air professionals covering Basic and Advanced PM, Continuous PM, Ozone Monitoring, Meteorological Monitoring, Quality Assurance Project Plans, and Data Management.

- * ORIA assisted OAQPS in the development of a Tribal Performance Evaluation Program Audit Certification course which was piloted at RTP.
- * ORIA initiated the TAMS Center PM2.5 filter weighing program. This program provides interim filter weighing services lasting no more than a year which will allow Tribes who are just starting ambient air monitoring programs to transition to a commercial or state laboratory. This model filter weighing program will also train Tribal air professionals on how to work with and evaluate the services offered by other weighing laboratories.
- * ORIA finalized development of its quality control system and participated in a round robin QA assessment in September, 2003. The program is currently servicing 3 Tribes and has processed approximately 400 samples to date. During on-site TAMS courses in Las Vegas, training participants are provided a tour of the filter weighing laboratory and given sample filters.

Technical Assistance for Tribes

- * ORIA provided training assistance to the Quapaw Tribe who are planning to deploy 14 monitors near the Tar Creek Superfund site
- * ORIA developed and distributed a 2003 Tribal Data Analysis Excel spreadsheet program to Tribes which contains step-by-step guidance and equations for analysis of data from all criteria pollutants, including all equations and quality assurance requirements listed in the CFR. The program was used to assist more than 30 Tribes with data analysis.
- * ORIA provided general technical support, on-site professional assistance and/or one-on-one training to Tribes for their ambient air monitoring programs.

V. **Section 7: External Stakeholder Engagement**

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ORIA conducted an aggressive and successful \$4 million national competition for applications for awarding its FY03 assistance agreements. Specific guidance criteria for the national competition required that all applicants address environmental justice and cultural and linguistic competency principles in submitted proposals.

ORIA launched the second wave of its Emmy Award-winning PSA "Take the National Radon Test: Man on the Street." In January 2003, ORIA released the Spanish-language version of the "The National Radon Test: People on the Street" PSA which featured individuals of Hispanic descent. These productions by the Consumer Federation of America Foundation were sent to major Hispanic media networks such as Univision and Telemundo.

In collaboration with the Self Reliance Foundation, ORIA supported the production of Spanish radio spots for the Hispanic Radio Network on asthma, ETS, and radon issues.

ORIA updated and reprinted the three most popular radon publications. The Citizen's Guide to Radon, the Consumers Guide to Radon and the Home Buyers and Sellers Guide To Radon. These reprints included an updated Spanish-language version of the Citizen's Guide entitled "El Radon," and the first ever Spanish-language version of the Home Buyers' and Sellers' Guide to Radon (featuring a statement from the EPA Administrator).

To reach African American mothers in selected locations around the country, ORIA's cooperative agreement with the Health Education Council pilots an exciting new approach entitled "Not in Mama's Kitchen". The project trains community and faith-based organizations to counter the negative health effects of secondhand smoke and promote the benefits of a smoke-free environment, and encourage families to pledge to make their homes and automobiles smoke-free. The current approach of the project has been implemented in 25 sites nationwide, reaching over 20,000 households.

ORIA is pursuing its secondhand smoke goals in partnership with several non-profit organizations such as the Health Education Council, National Council of La Raza, and the Indian Health Service in order to effectively educate and reduce health risks in Tribal populations and communities of color.

Other EJ-related assistance agreements are established with the National Organization of Black County Officials, Bureau of Primary Health Care, and the Association of Clinicians for the Under-served.

In 2003, ORIA made over \$800,000 available in matching grant funds to Tribal nations through the State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) program to support radon testing, mitigation, and radon-resistant new construction.

Under the WIPP Program, an active bilingual public information program is maintained for ongoing oversight activities. ORIA uses multiple avenues of communication to reach diverse audiences, including an extensive mailing list for regular newsletters, toll-free information line, and web-page and electronic notification – and allow opportunities for public comment on decisions that directly affect the communities surrounding the WIPP and associated DOE sites contaminated with radioactive materials.

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ORIA created a new Spanish-language video entitled, *Envenenando a Nuestros Hijos* - a complement to the *Poisoning Our Children* video by the American Academy of Otolaryngology to motivate millions of smokers to make their homes, cars, and other environments smoke-free for children.

ORIA created a new Onsite Pledge Planning Guide to support partners and agencies in planning local pledge events, including in low-income communities. This electronic product is using customizable logos and graphics.

ORIA secured a new and improved national toll-free Smoke Free Homes Pledge Hotline number: 1-866-SMOKE-FREE in English and Spanish.

ORIA continued the support of the National Hispanic Indoor Air Quality toll-free Hotline that is operated by the National Alliance for Hispanic Health.

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ORIA initiated an electronic notification system in New Mexico to alert stakeholders to current activities and decisions and provides hard copies of key information and documents at public libraries in major cities for audiences that may not have ready access to computer resources.

VI. Section 8: Data Collection, Management, Evaluation

Radiation Ambient Monitoring Systems (ERAMS) Project. This initiative (also entitled the National Radiation Monitoring Program) supports the provision of emergency response in the event of a large scale national incident (such as that of a Chernobyl or similar incident). Some selected sites serve tribal populations such as Prairie Island, Minnesota.

VII. **Section 9: Professional and Organizational Development**

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The Indoor Environments Division (IED) contracted with Georgetown University's National Center for Cultural Competence to review IED's current program and to recommend strategies by which the Division can enhance cultural and linguistically competent tools and resources and to help teams streamline their respective goals in effectively reaching cultural and socioeconomically diverse populations.

OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY AND PLANNING AND STANDARDS

The Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards (OAQPS) has funded and supported the implementation of many projects that specifically address environmental justice concerns in environmentally burdened communities of color and low-income populations. OAQPS's EJ initiatives are being implemented in a large variety of settings with multiple target audiences and a number of approaches which address and advance environmental justice concerns. OAQPS's commitments, which are contained in the OAR FY 2002 EJ Action Plan, focus on identifying opportunities and providing tools and resources for community residents to use in accessing and protecting their health, the health of their families and community.

OAQPS has realized significant success in meeting all of the commitments reflected in the FY02 Plan. The commitments were allocated sufficient resources, including funding and personnel (FTE). The Office is on schedule in meeting established milestones for the FY02 initiatives and ongoing projects are advancing as planned.

The following is a summary of OAQPS's EJ accomplishments from the OAR 2002 EJ Action Plan.

Environmental Justice Training

Since May 2002, the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) in Research Triangle Park (RTP), NC has offered voluntary training on the fundamentals of environmental justice to all of its 300+ staff as well as to external stakeholders. In FY03, OAQPS met its goals of offering the workshop twice yearly and training at least 60 individuals. OAR staff also assisted OEJ in conducting 4 workshops at EPA headquarters in FY 03.

OAQPS National Academy of Public Administration's (NAPA)Workgroup

In FY 03 OAR made significant progress in pursuing the actions outlined in our December 12, 2002 response to NAPA. Progress on specific action items are included in the attached matrix. In FY 03, OAQPS also started a dialogue with EPA regional air permitting and environmental justice personnel on these issues and is currently planning to sponsor an Environmental Justice in Permitting workshop in May 2004. The objectives of this workshop are to (1) understand better what the Regions are currently doing to promote better EJ outcomes in the States, (2) determine the barriers to States/Regions for obtaining good EJ outcomes for communities; (3) discuss how to overcome these barriers, (4) determine how Headquarters can assist the Regions in achieving the goal of environmental justice in permitting. OAR staff are also continuing to pursue opportunities to include early notification requirement in our permitting regulations as they are developed.

Local Air Toxics Assessments.

FY 03 Progress: OAQPS is continuing to assist Regions with the implementation of community-based air toxics programs. To date, OAR has provided seed money to over 20 community-based projects that are led by the EPA Regional offices. EPA has also issued guidance which encourages State, tribal and Local governments to work with their communities to develop a plan that lays out the sources of pollution from multiple media (air, water and hazardous waste), specific activities and goals for reducing pollution and a framework for strong public participation. OAR and OSWER are currently funding a pilot project in Phoenix, Arizona to demonstrate the use of the guidance.

APPENDIX

OFFICE OF AIR AND RADIATION

FY 2003 PROGRESS REPORT MATRIX

**The following matrix updates, by OAR Offices, the status of the specific commitments reflected in the
FY 2002 OAR Environmental Justice Action Plan.**

**OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION AND AIR QUALITY
FY03 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT MATRIX**

GOAL #1: To improve air quality (or reduce air pollution) and protect public health in all communities. Also, to decrease burden of environmental risks to low income and racial minority communities as a result of improved air quality.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|---|--|
| 2. Continue to support establishment of voluntary diesel retrofit programs in environmental justice areas | a. Create additional retrofit and idle control projects (previous projects have proven successful in reducing emissions from the existing fleet) b. Further develop incentives to encourage fleets to participate in the program c. Provide financial assistance to help cover the cost of the advanced emission control technologies d. Provide technical assistance to fleet owners regarding selecting appropriate retrofit and idle control technologies e. Select interstate corridors through areas with poor air quality for idle control projects | 9/30/03 | a. As part of the program's overall goal of obtaining commitments to retrofit fleets in 2003, require EJ to be addressed in the proposals for funding using criteria in the competition b. Verify the emission reduction efficacy of five new retrofit technologies | 0.2 FTE \$558,000 for cooperative agreements \$5 Million for school buses as mandated by Congress | Awarded five grants and one interagency agreement. Award winners are contributing a total of \$220,000 in matching funds. Funding for seventeen cooperative agreements was directed at school bus projects as a part of the Clean School Bus USA program - an outgrowth of the Retrofit Program. Eight new technologies verified. |

GOAL #5: Develop stronger partnerships with environmental justice communities, tribes, state and local agencies, industry, and environmental organizations. Expanding OAR’s outreach/communication and consensus building efforts to low income and minority communities. Support and enhance existing and future regional environmental justice initiatives. Enhance the relationship between OAR and its four adopted institutions in the academic relations program.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Expand OAR's outreach, communication and consensus building efforts to low income and minority communities and increase awareness of the environmental impact of mobile source emissions</p> | <p>a. Recruit African American youth between the ages of 14-19 and elicit their participation in a community-based public education project b. Encourage responsible vehicle selection and improved car care</p> | <p>Date of award + 12 months (Region 3 award expected in Fall, 2002) (Recruitment - 2 months; Workshops - 6 months; Community outreach - 4 months)</p> | <p>a. Pre and post testing of participant knowledge level b. Evaluation of workshop lesson plans c. Tracking media campaign for targeted community outreach d. Lessons learned document for use in other communities</p> | <p>Cooperative agreement, managed through EPA's Region 3, will provide \$99,975 through the Mobile Source Outreach Assistance Competition 2002. This limited funding is being leveraged through partnerships with other involved organizations in the DC area (e.g. Community Education Group)</p> | <p>Not funded due to inability of the potential recipient to meet a required local match. The Clean Air Act Section 105 grant program (i.e, the Mobile Source Outreach Assistance Competition) contains a mandated cost-sharing requirement. Organizations unable to meet the required match are considered ineligible.</p> |

GOAL #5: Develop stronger partnerships with environmental justice communities, tribes, state and local agencies, industry, and environmental organizations. Expanding OAR's outreach/communication and consensus building efforts to low income and minority communities. Support and enhance existing and future regional environmental justice initiatives. Enhance the relationship between OAR and its four adopted institutions in the academic relations program.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|---|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| <p>9. Develop community-based process for analyzing and identifying the impact of transportation operations and policies on population subgroups</p> | <p>a. Conduct community- based needs analysis, including series of stakeholder listening sessions b. Develop analytical tool and/or methodology to integrate EJ analysis into metropolitan transportation planning, including review of state-of-the- practice tools and methodologies c. Encourage replication through workshops, technology transfer, web and curriculum applications</p> | <p>Sept. 2002 to Oct. 2004</p> | <p>a. Improved air quality, identification, prevention, and mitigation of potential disproportionate impacts through increased ability to analyze impacts of transportation operations and policies on population subgroups b. Identification and implementation of best practices, tools and methods to evaluate and address EJ-related transportation issues c. Integration and elevation of EJ-related analysis as conventional metropolitan transportation planning technique d. Improved outreach, data collection, analysis, and integration of community input throughout the transportation planning process e. Replication by and technology transfer to other transportation planning organizations, including lessons-learned documentation</p> | <p>0.6 FTE</p> | <p>EPA awarded Morgan State University a cooperative agreement (\$53,964.00) to undertake Phase I of the project which consist of a series of community listening sessions in the Baltimore region and a review of model efforts to address EJ and transportation planning. Based on the findings of Phase I (and resource availability), Phase II is anticipated to develop new or refine existing tools to be used in the regional transportation planning process.</p> |

**OFFICE OF RADIATION AND INDOOR AIR (ORIA)
FY 03 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT MATRIX**

GOAL #1: To improve air quality (or reduce air pollution) and protect public health in all communities. Also, to decrease burden of environmental risks to low income and racial minority communities as a result of improved air quality.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| <p>3. Continue voluntary indoor air and radiation initiatives</p> | <p>a. Continue Tools for Schools program</p> <p>b. Continue to provide no-cost home radon detection kits to the public and analyze test results, maintain database on the # and location of cans analyzed each FY</p> <p>c. Conduct regular audits and inspections for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>a. Enroll 20 schools in “Tools for Schools” program</p> <p>b. Issue 100 home radon detection kits</p> <p>c. Compliance with public health and safety standards</p> | <p>a. \$2.5 million in FY 03 8 FTE</p> <p>b. \$160,000 in FY 03 FTE</p> | <p>a. More than 20 schools have been enrolled in the Schools Program, including many urban and low-income districts with disproportionate at-risk populations</p> <p>b. ORIA issued 1500 radon canisters to 40 EJ partners that work with residents from low-income households. The lab analyzed approximately 1300 canisters.</p> <p>c. ORIA conducted more than 15 inspections at multiple DOE sites to ensure safe and effective procedures for WIPP waste.</p> |

GOAL #3: To ensure that environmental justice is a significant consideration in strategic planning and operational planning efforts, and that all managers and staff understand the concept of environmental justice and are given the support and resources to integrate Environmental Justice in their day-to-day, programmatic responsibilities.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| 1. Incorporate EJ into operating plans for each OAR program office | a. Establish goals b. Establish evaluation criteria | a. by FY 2004 b. by FY 2004 | Each office should have specific goals established related to environmental justice | 0.01 FTE | ORIA's program offices continued to incorporate environmental justice principals into program and budget guidance for projects and activities in FY 2003 and FY 2004. The IAQ program's overall focus is on EJ and disadvantaged communities. |

GOAL #5: Develop stronger partnerships with environmental justice communities, tribes, state and local agencies, industry, and environmental organizations. Expanding OAR’s outreach/communication and consensus building efforts to low income and minority communities. Support and enhance existing and future regional environmental justice initiatives. Enhance the relationship between OAR and its four adopted institutions in the academic relations program.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| <p>3. Continue consultation with Tribes</p> | <p>e. Continue relationship with Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University</p> <p>f. Monitor progress of tribal workgroups</p> <p>g. Develop strategy to identify home with elevated radon levels in Indian Country</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Reductions in air pollution</p> <p>Distribution of communication strategy</p> <p>Completion of risk assessment.</p> | <p>1 FTE</p> | <p>e. ORIA works with ITEP to bring radiation educational information and materials to tribes.</p> <p>f. ORIA is working with ITEP and the Tribal Air Monitoring Center (TAMS) to develop training in environmental radiation monitoring</p> <p>g. ORIA provides on-site scanning in a former uranium mine within tribal lands in Spokane, WA and preliminary data will be used to cleanup identified areas of concern in partnership with TAMS Center staff, ORIA works with the Navajo nation as they seek to address concerns related to legacy uranium mining activities.</p> |

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| <p>5. Continue partnership with community and health organizations to reduce asthma</p> | <p>Project 1) Asthma media campaign targeted towards parents of children with asthma in urban areas Outreach and education materials are available in English and Spanish</p> <p>Project 2) Provide direct education to families with children with asthma in under served areas.</p> <p>Project 3) Managed care initiative targeted to health plans. Goal is to have plans incorporate environmental management into asthma management programs - focused on medicaid audiences.</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Reduction in missed school days and missed work days as a result of improved indoor air quality</p> | <p>1 FTE</p> | <p>1) ORIA launched the second wave of public service announcements (PSA) from the successful Goldfish campaign, including a Spanish-language PSA. The 1st wave of the PSA resulted in over \$100 million in donated media time</p> <p>2) Asthma training activities were administered to thousands of health care providers who reached thousands of families.</p> <p>3) An asthma resource guide was developed for health plans and a stakeholder session was held for Medicaid health plans providers that offer coverage for over 150,000 Medicaid recipients</p> |

**OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY AND PLANNING STANDARDS
FY03 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN
PROGRESS REPORT MATRIX**

GOAL #1: To improve air quality (or reduce air pollution) and protect public health in all communities. Also, to decrease burden of environmental risks to low income and racial minority communities as a result of improved air quality.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <p>1. Improve assessment methodology (targeted toward populations suffering disproportionate impacts) regarding exposure to air pollution.</p> | <p>a. Evaluate the location of emission sources relative to environmental justice communities b. Assess emissions loadings from those sources c. Evaluate the distribution of ambient concentrations of criteria pollutants and air toxics in environmental justice communities d. Prioritize Maximum Achievable Control Technology and residual risk standards to address hot spots located in environmental justice communities e. Evaluate the distribution of ambient air toxics monitors in light of indication of risk as per NATA study f. Develop optical remote sensing procedure to support collection of data in potential high-risk areas g. Develop performance specifications and quality assurance and control requirements for parameters (used as surrogates for man air toxics pollutants) to improve data collection on air toxics</p> | <p>Ongoing (most projects should be completed by 2004)</p> | | <p>1 FTE</p> | <p>a.- d. Activities ongoing. Information on to this activity should be available in FY 04-05. e. A draft air toxics monitoring strategy was developed that discusses the role of NATA: www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/airtxfil.html. f. OAQPS completed controlled field demonstrations of an optical remote sensing procedure for locating hot spots and measuring emission flux of gaseous organic and inorganic hazardous air pollutants. Staff are using the technique at actual emission sources to refine the procedures. A draft measurement protocol is to be completed by the end of 2004. g. Activity ongoing. No specific information to report at this time.</p> |

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|--|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <p>(Cont.) 1. Improve assessment methodology (targeted toward populations suffering disproportionate impacts) regarding exposure to air pollution.</p> | <p>h. Evaluate the quality and reliability of collected air quality and emission data i. Improve emissions information and measurement techniques j. Develop additional information about emissions and air quality at the community level k. Assist in the development of permit writer's course that will include assessment tools for potentially high-risk areas l. Encourage EPA air permit writers to take new permit writer's course m. Identify assessment tools developed by other offices and States as part of OAR's periodic review of its Guidelines on Air Quality Models</p> | <p>Ongoing (most projects should be completed by 2004)</p> | | <p>1 FTE</p> | <p>h. Developed EPA Quality System to manage environmental data collection, generation, and use. The Quality System seeks to ensure environmental data of sufficient quantity and quality and applies to all environmental data operation (EDO) activities including EJ. EDO Quality Assurance/Quality Control guidance and tools are available at: www.epa.gov/quality/. i. OAQPS 1) promulgated Performance Specification 11 for PM continuous emission monitoring systems (CEMS), 2) proposed Performance Specification 12A for mercury CEMS, 3) proposed Method 323 for formaldehyde from gas turbines, 4) proposed Method 324 for long-term integrated measurement of mercury from utilities, 5) published conditional test methods: PM fine (dilution-based), extractive FTIR for ammonia and other air toxics from highway and nonroad diesel engines, and 6) worked on new test method for acrolein. j. The 1996 NATA provides county-level information on emissions, ambient air quality and risk (www.epa.gov/ttn/nata). k. - l. Activities ongoing. OAQPS plans to continue to participated in this OEJ-led effort. m. Activity ongoing. No specific information to report at this time.</p> |

GOAL #1 (cont.): To improve air quality (or reduce air pollution) and protect public health in all communities. Also, to decrease burden of environmental risks to low income and racial minority communities as a result of improved air quality.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| <p>4. Continue to oversee issuance of air permits and complete issuance of air permits in Indian Country</p> | <p>a. Develop Tribal Minor New Source Review Rule</p> | <p>FY 2003</p> | | | <p>The proposal of this rule is currently on hold because of competing priorities and budget constraints</p> |
| <p>5. Continue review and promulgation of national ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants and technology-based standards for toxics</p> | <p>a. Review NAAQS every five years b. Finalize as many 10-year MACT as possible and continue to work on remaining standards c. Ensure all promulgated emission standards are effectively implemented</p> | <p>FY 2002</p> | <p>Emissions reductions seen in areas where EJ communities exist</p> <p>Total number of people living in attainment areas increases from year to year</p> | | <p>a. OAQPS regularly reviews NAAQS as required by law. Below is the current status: Carbon Monoxide - Criteria Document finished; NAAQS review pending. Lead - No review underway. Nitrogen Dioxide - Update of Criteria Document expected to begin 2005; NAAQS review to follow. Ozone - Criteria Document being updated; current schedule, March 2006 proposal, Dec. 2006 final. PM - Criteria Document near final draft; current schedule, March 2005 proposal, December 2005 final. Sulfur Dioxide - Update expected to begin 2005; NAAQS review to follow. b./c. OAQPS has promulgated 96 MACT standards as required by the Act. These standards cover 174 source categories. OAQPS continues to ensure effective implementation of promulgated emission standards.</p> |

GOAL #2: To familiarize and build awareness of environmental justice issues as they relate to OAR's mission and regulatory authority

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|--|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| <p>1. Provide opportunity for staff to participate in Fundamentals of EJ Workshop</p> | <p>a. Conduct training on a consistent basis (at least once per month) b. Evaluate training</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>a. Conduct workshop 2 times per year in RTP, NC b. Conduct workshop every month in Washington, DC c. Participate in conducting Regional workshops 2 per year d. Train at least 60 OAR staff per year</p> | <p>2 FTE</p> | <p>Training conducted in FY03: - Assisted OEJ in four workshops at EPA Headquarters - Jan 2003 trained 20 EPA staff & external stakeholders in NC (rating 9.1/10) - June 2003 trained nine external stakeholders at Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference, Laurel, MD (rating 9.2/10) - Sept 2003 trained 16 EPA staff in NC (rating 9.5/10) - July 2003 assisted EPA Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response in conducting training at Community Involvement Conference in Philadelphia, PA.</p> |
| <p>2. Continue to provide training on New Source Review and Title V to communities</p> | <p>a. Conduct New Source Review Training b. Evaluate NSR Training c. Conduct advanced Title V Training d. Evaluated Title V Training</p> | <p>a. 6/02-12/02 b. 1/03 c. 4/03 d. 5/03</p> | <p>a. Conduct at least 6 workshops (approx. 1 per month) b. Ratings by participants c. Conduct 1-2 Workshops d. Ratings by participants</p> | <p>0.04 FTE</p> | <p>a. - b. OAQPS sponsored 3 New Source Review workshops in FY 03. Workshops were conducted in Baltimore, Houston and Baton Rouge. Approx.30 people attended each training. Training was well received by attendees. c. - d. March 2003, OAQPS in partnership with Environmental Defense Council and EPA Region 9 presented a public workshop on reviewing title V permits. OAQPS funded a cooperative agreement to develop a Clean Air Act for EJ communities training pilot and a conference for EJ advocates, regulators, and academics on emerging EJ and permitting issues.</p> |

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 3. Assist in the development of permitting module for Fundamentals of EJ workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop outline for course b. Participate in OEJ conference calls c. Pilot Course for select staff in Regions/OAR d. Conduct workshop with OEJ e. Evaluate workshop | Project being run out of OEJ | Project being run out of OEJ | 0.3 FTE | OAQPS participated in development of draft module. OEJ is currently evaluating how to proceed with finalizing the draft and piloting the training module. |
| 4. Develop videos to enhance Fundamentals course | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop concepts for presentation to OAQPS management (Warren Co. and EJTC Public Relations videos) b. Design videos c. Film videos d. Edit videos e. Finalize and Distribute to EJ Training Collaborative | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1/03 b. 2/03 c. 6/03 d. 8/03 e. 9/03 | Provide EJ Training Collaborative with 2 high quality videos to supplement the Fundamentals Workshop | 0.2 FTE Seeking funding from OAQPS | OAQPS researched cost and viability of developing the videos. Concepts were presented to OAQPS management and EPA EJ training team. Because OEJ was in the process of developing similar videos, it was decided OAQPS did not need to duplicate efforts. |
| 5. Provide opportunity for staff to participate in Risk Assessment Workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Finalize development of course b. Identify trainers c. Conduct pilot training d. Evaluate Course | 2/03 | Provide voluntary training to all ESD staff working on MACT standards and other interested parties | 0.5 FTE/ Project is fully funded by OAQPS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training development completed September 2003. To date, EPA Region 4 and 5 have conducted training for about 25 EPA headquarters, regional and state staff. Feedback has been positive. - OAQPS released a new web based training course on Risk Based Air toxics. The course can be found at: http://www.epa.gov/air/oaqps/eog/course/index.html |

GOAL #4: Provide additional tools/guidance for OAR and regional office staff working on environmental justice issues

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Continue work to develop best practice guidance | <p>a. Continue to assist NEJAC Air and Water Subcommittee on the development of permitting guidance</p> <p>b. Continue to develop P4 guidance and public participation best practices</p> | <p>a. 12/02</p> <p>b. Ongoing</p> | Issuance of guidance | 0.02 FTE | a. Project completed and the mapping tool is now on the OEJ website and available from public use. |
| 3. Continue to refine National Air Toxics Assessment (monitoring, modeling, etc.) and the development of tools to better characterize the risk from air toxics | <p>a. Continue to improve air toxics monitoring network</p> <p>b. Continue to improve air toxics modeling capabilities</p> <p>c. Continue education and outreach</p> <p>d. Continue to improve air toxics inventories</p> | Ongoing | Reductions in air toxics emissions | ----- | <p>a. -b. OAQPS continued to refine the national-scale assessment and is currently developing the assessment for the 1999 calendar year using improved inventory data, updated spatial allocation methods for county-level emissions, improved exposure modeling, and current dose-response information.</p> <p>b. OAQPS developed a version of SMOKE that can process toxic air pollutants for the CMAQ model. Currently developing improved version EMS-HAP to process emissions for ISCST3 and ASPEN models.</p> <p>c. HAP emission inventory training has been conducted at several locations during FY03.</p> <p>d. The 1999 NEI for HAPs was released in August 2003.</p> |
| 4. Work with other EPA offices to construct and disseminate a decision tree on dispute resolution and dialogues tools | <p>a. Develop draft decision tree</p> <p>b. Finalize decision tree</p> | FY 2003 | Issuance of decision tree | | Informational briefings on alternative dispute resolution techniques have been given to OAQPS Senior management. To date, plans to coordinate with other offices have not been made. |

GOAL #5: Develop stronger partnerships with environmental justice communities, tribes, state and local agencies, industry, and environmental organizations. Expanding OAR’s outreach/communication and consensus building efforts to low income and minority communities. Support and enhance existing and future regional environmental justice initiatives. Enhance relationship between OAR and four adopted institutions in the academic relations program.

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| 2. Continue to provide support to Regions to conduct community assessments | a. Monitor progress and activities being conducted in each Regional office b. Provide technical support to regions | Ongoing | Reductions in air pollution | 1 FTE | OAQPS staff continue to provide support to the regions as requested. |
| 3. Continue consultation with Tribes | a. Maintain Tribal Air Newsletter b. Maintain TribalAIR Website c. Develop communication strategy for working with tribes (direct calling, workshops, national tribal meetings, electronic mailings, articles in Indian Country newsletters, TribalAIR web, direct mailings to tribal governments) d. Complete Maricopa Co. risk assessment e. Continue relationship with Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals at N. Arizona University f. Monitor progress of tribal workgroups g. Develop strategy to identify home with elevated radon levels in Indian Country | Ongoing | Reductions in air pollution Distribution of communication strategy Completion of risk assessment. | 1 FTE | a. OAQPS developed/issued three newsletters in 2003. b. Website averaged 5000 hits a month and had 60 subscribers. c. OAQPS worked with Regulatory Steering Committee and others to develop EPA’s consultation policy. Meanwhile, OAR had informal communication policy with EPA Regions on OAR rules and programs. d. Maricopa Co. risk assessment completed. Project now in design phase. Data is currently being collected. OAQPS is coordinating with South Phoenix community to share data and information. e. OAQPS continued building relationship with ITEP including having staff serve as instructors (e.g., emissions inventory development, AQS training, CAA and Permitting, air toxics, Quality Assurance Plans, and audit certifications). f. OAQPS worked closely with newly formed National Tribal Air Association. Helped group get established. Continued to support many tribal consortia and air programs. |

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|---|--|--|--|------------------------------|---|
| <p>4. Continue Memorandum of Understanding with North Carolina A&T State University</p> | <p>a. Provide support to university staff b. Explore research opportunities with university officials c. Continue summer intern program</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Increase number of minority students hired in OAR</p> | <p>1 FTE</p> | <p>- OAQPS continued to support NC A&T State University through activities such as: weekly outreach meetings with university faculty and students, participation in NC A&T Career Awareness Program, and support to Waste Management Institute's certificate program. - 23 students (17 from NC A&T) interned at EPA-RTP/NC, Summer 2003.</p> |
| <p>6. Establish strong, positive partnerships between EPA, state and local agencies, industry, environmental organizations, and the public</p> | <p>a. Secure funding for technical assistance centers for communities in each State to be operated in conjunction with existing SBA technical assistance centers b. If funding is not available for State technical assistance center, explore other models for funding for technical assistance to communities. c. Partner with other offices to make technical resources easier for communities to access d. Develop plan for training communities on EPA's information resources e. consult with SBA program re: training for small businesses on community outreach and dialog f. improve public access to information about EPA's technical assessment tools and work with other offices to assure tools are available in a form that is useful to the public g. recommend that Regional Offices work with local zoning and health agencies to resolve issues raised in connection with EJ issues arising in EPA-issued permits</p> | <p>a. 12/03 b. 12/03 c. 3/03 d. 3/03</p> | <p>-----</p> | <p>To be determine d</p> | <p>Because of budget constraints, no additional funding for technical assistance was secured. In March 2003, OAQPS staff met with Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) staff to explore possibility of using SBAP technical assistance centers to assist communities. There is tremendous variability in terms of size, scope and effectiveness of the SBAP technical assistance programs. Some programs operate at universities, some are run by grantees, some by state agencies. Most are underfunded, using title V and 105 monies. SBAP staff were not sure if SBAP programs would be interested in expanding their mission because of perceived conflict of interest between traditional roles and helping the public in their oversight function. OAQPS is currently exploring other options such as providing TA to citizens through the university network</p> |

| Strategies | Activities | Duration/ Due Date | Performance Measures | Resources (FTE/\$) | Status |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| <p>7. Ensure that affected communities receive early notice of permitting actions</p> | <p>a. Adopt a policy that communities are to be notified upon receipt of applications for EPA-issued permits b. Revise regulations for title V permit programs to require States and EPA to provide notice to communities upon receipt of applications for title V permits c. Encourage Regional office permit writers to meet and discuss permit applications with all interested parties and to provide facilitation resources</p> | <p>a. 12/02 b. 12/03 c. 12/02</p> | <p>a. Issuance of policy memorandum b. Promulgation of regulatory revision c. Issuance of memorandum to Regional Offices</p> | <p>a. .01 FTE b. .01 FTE c. .01 FTE</p> | <p>OAQPS highlighted the need for these activities to regional offices and is currently doing outreach to see what regions are doing in this regard.</p> |